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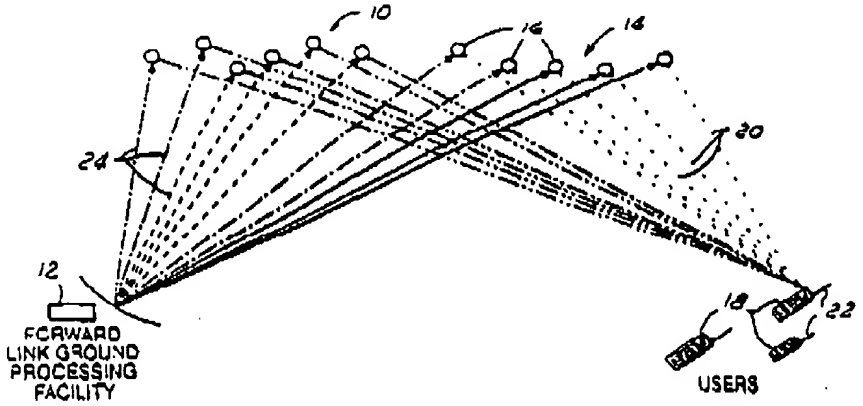
(54) Title: A USER POSITIONING TECHNIQUE FOR MULTI-PLATFORM COMMUNICATION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A mobile wireless communications system including a plurality of individual transponding nodes all in communication with a central processing hub. A local user signal is processed by the central processing hub and radiated through multiple paths to a plurality of the pluralitz of individual transponding platforms simultaneously. The signal is then re-radiated by each of the plurality of the plurality of individual transponding platforms to a mobile terminal associated with a remote user that receives the re-radiated signal from the plurality of the plurality of individual transponding platforms coherently and in phase. The number of transponders and codes used to transmit each user signal can be readily adapted to user requirements. The central hub can determine the position of each of the remote users based on stored information derived from the synchronization of the various signals, and specifically relating to the timing, phase or frequency of the signals in both the forward and return link.

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